

The US subprime mortgage crisis and subsequent recession led to millions of Americans losing their homes through foreclosure. Since 2008, foreclosures across Los Angeles County have risen dramatically. We all hope that this trend will end as economic recovery occurs, but the lack of management of these properties and the subsequent negative impacts of them have become a real issue for this County.

In the Los Angeles County, the way we manage a foreclosed/abandoned home is strictly reactive. Our offices get complaints from nearby residents on problems that have gone unattended for months, and this is often after considerable frustration and aggravation for a lack of a proactive approach to this problem.

It is the responsibility of owners, which are often banks, to manage these properties, but this maintenance often does not take place. Blighted and unkempt homes can lower property values, lead to increased crime, and decrease the quality of life for the surrounding neighbors. Owners/banks are required by law to maintain these properties, and we should hold them accountable to do so.

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

Many jurisdictions have begun creating registries that can track these homes early on in the foreclosure process. By tracking these homes proactively, we can better assure that they are being appropriately maintained.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Public Works to work with the appropriate County departments, including: Regional Planning, Public Health, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, County Counsel and the Chief Executive Office to research the feasibility of implementing a proactive tracking system for defaulted/ foreclosed properties in the unincorporated County and report back to the Board in 60 days.

# # #

AN:eg